

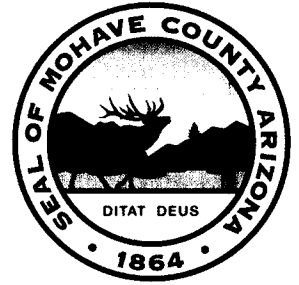


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OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

MOHAVE COUNTY BOARD of SUPERVISORS

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2014 DEC 10 P 3:39

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL***Gary Watson, Supervisor District 1***

ORIGINAL

December 10, 2014

Docket: E-04204A-14-0249

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Attention: Docket Control

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

DEC 10 2014

Dear Members of the Arizona Corporation Commission,

DOCKETED BY	
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Re: UNS 2015 REST Plan and planned solar farm

Mohave County has very recently become aware of the 2015 REST Plan submitted by Unisource (UNS) for the Commission's approval this Thursday or Friday, December 11-12, 2014. Mohave County and UNS enjoy a very good, mutually beneficial relationship. UNS is one of the largest companies based in Mohave County and an important contributor to Mohave County's economic development; the majority of UNS' customers are located in Mohave County, with the County itself being one of its largest customers.

It is well known that Mohave County has excellent renewable energy resources, available land and power transmission infrastructure. We are very supportive of renewable energy projects generally, and those that support our county's economic development and benefit our residents and businesses, in particular.

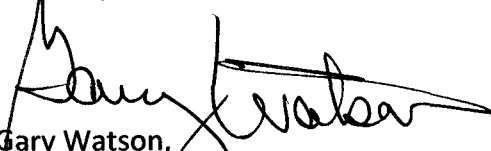
From UNS' 2015 REST Plan we note that UNS plans to satisfy 30 MW of its renewable energy requirements from a proposed solar farm located near Wilcox, Arizona, some 400 miles from its service area Mohave and also at a distance from UNS' Santa Cruz service area. It is also our understanding this solar project is to be collocated with a large wind power project that was previously competitively procured by its affiliate, Tucson Electric Power (TEP), and the associated wind power PPA approved by the Commission last year.

I would like to note for the Commission, that the proposed solar energy project location is well beyond TEP's own service area and even further removed from the UNS service area, which could create additional costs for UNS Customers due to the great transmission distance it will necessarily create.

What I am requesting for the Commission's consideration is, as part of the Commission's regular duties of ensuring that the solar PPA was selected through a fair and competitive procurement process, that the procurement process and contract terms for this solar project result in cost-effective solar energy solution for our residents relative to the economic benefits which could be realized by siting such solar farm within the UNS service area in Mohave County.

We are otherwise encouraged by UNS' stated intention to consider Mohave County as the host of future, albeit much smaller, solar projects, and we look forward to working with UNS to ensure that all parties, including our constituents and our region generally, benefit to the fullest of the great solar resources of our county.

Sincerely,



Gary Watson,
Mohave County Supervisor, District 1